



# HASC Briefs

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## Los Angeles Supervisors Authorize Implementation of Laura's Law

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors has authorized implementation of AB 1421, the Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) Demonstration Project, known as Laura's Law, in Los Angeles County. Mental Health Service Act (MHSA) revenue will fund AOT, which the Board adopted in July.

The expansion of AOT services will be accomplished by:

- Creating two intensive outreach and engagement teams with the capacity to evaluate and outreach to 500 additional clients per year and to initiate petitions with the court, as necessary.
- Authorization to hire 18 full-time employees.

- Expanding the capacity by 300 additional slots for full service partnership treatment providers to provide time-limited intensive AOT.
- Expanding the capacity by 60 additional beds for IMD step-down program providers to provide residential treatment for AOT Los Angeles clients who require that level of care.
- Establishing an Oversight Committee comprised of the Mental Health Commission, DMH staff, and key community stakeholders.

No voluntary programs serving adults and no children's mental health programs may be reduced as a result of this implementation.

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## Two New Supervisors in Los Angeles County

Newly elected Supervisors Hilda Solis and Shiela Kuehl were sworn in this week as the newest members of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors.

Solis and Kuehl replaced longtime Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, who served 20 years, and Gloria Molina, who served 22 years on the Board, respectively. Both individuals were required to retire from the Board due to term limits.

Solis and Kuehl presided over their first meeting as supervisors on Dec. 2.

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## Modern Pricing Transparency Initiative Kick-Off Meeting Dec. 16

HASC's Modern Pricing Transparency Initiative (MPTI) Kick-Off Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Dec. 16 at the HASC Los Angeles Office from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. To register for the meeting, please contact Trudy Duncan at [tduncan@hasc.org](mailto:tduncan@hasc.org) or (213) 538-0718.

The main objectives of Modern Pricing are:

- Make hospital charges more palatable to consumers and bring charges closer to costs.
- Reduce hospital charges – not revenues.
- Modern Pricing should be budget-neutral to hospitals and payers.

The Dec. 16 agenda includes:

- *Welcome & Introductions*, Mark Gamble, Sr. VP/COO, HASC
- *Background of Modern Pricing*, Anne McLeod, Senior Vice President, Health Policy, CHA
- *Recapping the Henry Mayo Experience*, C.R. Bob Hudson, Senior Vice President/Chief Finan-

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## Bridges Maternal Child Health Network Evaluation Brief Reveals Improved Program Efficiency Since Redesign

The Bridges Maternal Child Health Network (Bridges Network), funded by the Children and Families Commission of Orange County (Commission) through Proposition 10 tobacco tax revenue, is a multi-disciplinary system of providers that collaborate throughout Orange County to improve the health and well-being of pregnant women and young children 0-5 years of age. The Bridges Network was redesigned and rebranded in 2009. The aim was to restructure the program to operate as a network system of care; identify cost savings and reductions; find ways to streamline processes; and strengthen program management. All redesign recommendations were based on emerging best practices and evidence-based models of care.

A recently released evaluation brief of the Bridges Network indicates strong improvement in the areas of refocusing the distribution of the Kit for New Parents as well as an enhanced use of electronic technology for efficient and effective services.

With the Bridges Network redesign and focus on prenatal distribution, hospitals shifted distribution of the Kit for New Parents from all mothers who delivered a baby to include pregnant women and especially targeting mothers



Funded by the Children and Families  
Commission of Orange County

identified as at-risk. Prenatal distribution of the Kit has been an effective strategy for outreach and/or education by strengthening coordination, collaboration and communication among Bridges hospital staff and their interdepartmental colleagues and community partners.

Also, the Bridges Network converted to a paperless data system with the implementation of the Bridges Connect Data System, which leverages existing hospital data for risk screening and data collection with electronic referrals through wireless technology with real-time data sharing. Many programs within the Bridges Network

reported that the introduction of electronic technology has made them more efficient in sending and tracking referrals, uploading electronic forms to case management, and reducing duplication of services.

As a result of the redesign, HASC entered into a subcontracted partnership with Orangewood Children's Foundation, the designated Central Program Management agency contracted under one master agreement with the Commission. With the transition to a Central Program Management role, HASC has been effective in providing support, technical assistance, and leadership to Bridges Network hospitals.

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## HASC Welcomes New Members

HASC is pleased to welcome two new associate members:

**[Intrinsic Health Resources, LLC](#)**,  
Newport Beach, CA

David G. Platt, Managing Director  
Intrinsic Health Resources, LLC is a consulting firm that provides operational, quality and financial improvement, strategic planning, analytics and modeling, managed care contracting, government reimbursement and cost reporting, interim executive and financial management, and accounts payable and sales tax recovery to hospital and health care systems.

**[Masimo](#)**, Irvine, CA

Joe Kiana, Chairman/CEO

Masimo is a global medical technology company that develops and manufactures innovative noninvasive patient monitoring technologies, including medical devices and a wide array of sensors.

In related news, the City and County of San Francisco signed on with ReddiNet and went live with the emergency communication system at the end of November. Contact: Soraya Peters, (213) 538-0790, speters@hasc.org.

**Contact:** Pat Wall, (213) 538-0715,  
pwall@hasc.org

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cial Officer, Henry Mayo Newhall  
Memorial Hospital

- *CHA/HASC Discussions with CMS & Health Plans, A.* McLeod; Lloyd Bookman, Esq., Partner, Hooper, Bookman & Lundy; M. Gamble
- *Objectives of the MPTI Collaborative Pilot Hospital Group*, Trahan Whitten, Executive Vice President, Toyon Associates; M. Gamble

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